

Francophone Cinema

Last Updated: Sun, 12/28/2025

Course prefix: FREN

Course number: 4105/8803

Section: A

CRN (you may add up to five):
34714 34715

Instructor First Name: Jean

Instructor Last Name: Ippolito

Semester: Spring

Academic year: 2026

Course description:

This course will explore representations of Francophone regions of the world from Africa to the Caribbean thru films. Fall 2025 focus will be on discovering Africa, the Caribbean, the Middle East and Canada thru film. Special attention to current issues and contemporary societies. All films freely available on CANVAS. NO TEXTBOOK TO BUY/RENT, COURSE MATERIALS ON CANVAS AND/OR ONLINE. This course counts for the French major and the new African studies minor. Credit Hrs: 3. Taught in French. **Attributes:** Humanities Requirement.

Course learning outcomes:

This course will introduce students to world cinema in French from Africa, etc. Students will:

- develop their analysis skills related to film and Francophone cultures;
- analyze documents and content related to Francophone countries with special focus on Africa;
- improve their oral and written communication skills at the intermediate level and beyond;
- and understand the importance of images and other representations for Francophone societies with special focus on Africa.

Required course materials:

NO REQUIRED BOOK, Web-based material.

Course packet: **movies and selected documents** and links on each unit studied **on the syllabus and/or CANVAS**

Grading policy:

Weekly Postings on Canvas [20% of final grade];

2 Mini-Presentations in class based on your 2 essays [20% of final grade, 10% each].2
Essays (40% of final grade, 20% each);

Active participation (20% of final grade)

A: 90-100 / Superior performance.

B: 80-89 / Above-average, high-quality performance.

C: 70-79 / Average performance.

D: 60-69 / Below-average performance. Needs substantive work.

F: 0-59 / Unacceptable performance.

Attendance policy:

Attendance essential and part of the grade **(one point taken off final grade for each unexcused absence after 2 absences; more than 10 minutes late: half an absence)**. Only a GT letter can excuse an absence. Please make a constant effort to practice your French and present your point of view/ideas to class. Please be on time for class too.

Academic honesty/integrity statement:

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. All work submitted must be original and properly cited. Plagiarism, cheating, or any form of academic dishonesty will result in immediate consequences as outlined in the university's academic integrity policy.

Core IMPACTS statement(s) (if applicable):

This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Humanities area.

-Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help students master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

-This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I interpret the human experience through creative, linguistic, & philosophical works?

-Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

- Students will effectively analyze and interpret the meaning, cultural significance, and ethical implications of literary/philosophical texts or of works in the visual/performing arts.

-Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

- Ethical Reasoning
- Information Literacy
- Intercultural Competence